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Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

SUPPORT WITH MODIFICATIONS, H.B. No. 5120, An Act Concerning Hunting And Fishing Licenses

Senator Meyer, Representative Roy, Members of the Environment Committee,

My name is Kevin Holian-Borgnis and I am the Secretary and a founding member of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League. We are the largest grassroots gun rights organization in the state with more than 1800 members. I am writing today to support Section 2 of H.B. No. 5120 and oppose Section 3.

Section 2 of this bill would encourage participation in the shooting sports by lowering the cost of the resident firearm super sport licenses and any license issued to a 16 or 17 year old during 2013, with only a small increase in the resident combination license. Lower costs will make firearms hunting accessible to more Connecticut residents, encouraging growth in the sport.

However, Section 3 of this bill would eliminate the prohibition on charging for the mandatory hunter safety instruction and should be removed from this bill. Allowing instructors to charge for this mandatory training without limit will discourage first time hunters and youth from participating in Connecticut's tradition of hunting.

Thank you for your time,

Kevin Holian-Borgnis
Secretary, Connecticut Citizens Defense League, Inc.

Every citizen has a right
to bear arms in defense
of himself and the state.

Connecticut State Constitution, Article First, Section 15